



# THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

THE INDUSTRIAL AND EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS OF OUR PEOPLE PARAMOUNT TO ALL OTHER CONSIDERATIONS OF STATE POLICY.

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## DIRECTORY OF FARMERS' ORGANIZATIONS.

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Iredell County Agricultural Association meets in Statesville every two months.  
Julian Allen, President; T. M. Mills, Secretary; A. L. Barringer, Treasurer.

## EXTRACTS FROM AN ADDRESS

Delivered by W. H. Rand, Esq., Before Auburn Alliance, No. 41, on Saturday Afternoon, July 14th, 1888.

MR. PRESIDENT AND BRETHREN OF THE ALLIANCE:—Taking into consideration the cause for which we are allied, together with the potent evils and pressing need of the times combined, we naturally arrive at the conclusion that some discussion in regard to matters that pertain to the welfare of our organization is expedient; therefore, in order to perpetuate its existence and push forward its interest, we should participate therein freely whenever occasion demands, and as to what nature the subject we propose to discuss shall be, is clearly implied in our Constitution, and as political economy and non-partisan politics are allowable and are the absorbing topics of conversation of the present day, I will, in the interest of the Alliance, speak briefly in regard to those subjects. Politically, seeds of discussion have been sown, sores have been made by our nominating conventions that defy the curative properties of medicants to heal, and what must be done to counteract the supposed injury done, seems just now to be a complex question, that will not cease to trouble political circles this side of November. To bring

about a state of reconciliation, mild and persuasive measures, must be resorted to, or else a breach already made will be widened to that extent as to defy bridging over. Efforts have already been made to revive the old days of partizan proscription, which if persisted in would be detrimental to the Alliance. In my opinion the Alliance is morally bound to occupy higher ground—soar in altitudes above those of the past and proscribe no man on account of his political views according to the rules of decorum, by which we should be governed. We cannot conscientiously descend below the lines of morality to consummate our ends or carry our points; it would be digression from the paths of duty as laid down in our Constitution, and we would render ourselves liable to have charges preferred against us that would rupture our order and to a very great extent defeat its aims in the future. From what we see and hear, disaffection is wide-spread in political circles. Thousands of men throughout the State entertain hostile feelings towards our State conventions and denounce their action in unmeasured terms and denigrate them as the disturbing elements of political society. They contend their action was calculated to destroy party prestige and enslave the masses, ignored the sentiments of the people and endorsed the action of those men who usually run political machinery, and as to whether or not they act with discretion, they propose to decide that matter for themselves. It is an evident fact that political bossism is cursing the country and I am glad to know that the masses who have hitherto been groping their way through the darkness, are now opening their eyes and intend to have a voice in shaping up the future, and will no longer pay homage to political demagogues. The people of the present age are more intelligent, more enlightened and better informed generally than they have ever been, and it is gratifying to know that such a state of things exist, it is a true criterion by which we may with some degree of accuracy judge our future prosperity. They have vivid recollections of the past they are loth to forget and have been taught of late that political corruption or corruption of whatever nature it may be, or from what source it may arise must be overpowered and dethroned, and they are issuing a warning decree to that effect, that the eloquence of silver-tongued orators in their last throws of political death will not overthrow. By interchange of views in brotherly counsel they have learned that slavery is dead and they intend hereafter to stand higher up in the ranks of civilization and make their surroundings more attractive. The idea that we live for the government is becoming antiquated, but the modern idea that the government was erected by and for the people, and exists for them, will be the prevailing one in the future. I believe it is the sacred and solemn duty of every man to vote, and to do so intelligently, and in order to do that he must first lay down his prejudices, examine party platforms and records, and weigh well the issues they put before him. His God, his family and all that he gives the first place in his affections demand that he makes proper use of his elective franchise, in order to stay the hand of corruption, better his condition, prove his devotion to his posterity, and when after mature deliberation, he has done this and decided as to how he shall cast his ballot, it is to be presumed that he is unalterably fixed against the arguments of designing men and will stand as firm and defiant as the everlasting rocks of the seashore, which roll back into confusion the surging billows of the great deep. According to the way he stands by and supports his honest convictions, prosperity will be meted out to him, and those clouds of gloom and despondency which have hitherto overshadowed his pathway and blighted his fondest hopes, will be seen receding in the distance, making way for the dawn of a brighter day

to appear. As an organization, we are passing through a trying ordeal. The foundation upon which we propose to build, and the record we are making, is being watched by sagacious men. The eyes of the nation are upon us. Corrupt men are astonished and disconcerted at the steady advance we are making to better our condition. They believe that the days of our deliverance from injustice and oppression are near at hand, and that we are destined to wield an influence that will sway the nation—turn political scales and give us the future, and do not hesitate to say and believe this much, our President knew when he declined his nomination and encouraged and transported by the happy and triumphant thought he stood reconciled on the Alliance platform alone, believing as he did, that it offered the only medium through which we, the toiling millions, could redress our wrongs and supplant our misery and destitution, and if we could have had him as our nominee, not a wave of trouble would have disturbed our political atmosphere. But, however, it is a long time before the election takes place. Many changes will doubtless be made. Many sores will possibly heal over, and the old idea that God takes care of the fools and the United States will vanish, better judgment will prevail and a just verdict will be cast. The ignorance of the people is not so profound or obscure as to warrant the conclusion that they know not what they do. I believe those with whom I am so fortunate as to be acquainted will act according to the dictates of a better conscience, and when the time arrives for them to cast their ballot they will do so with an eye single to the interest of their country.

I think, Mr. President, that in all things the Alliance should throw proper restraint upon their zeal and not allow it to over-run or mislead their better judgment; by so doing they will avoid many mistakes over which they would not have to grieve in the future. I think it would be folly in us to favor the nominations of weak and unrepresentative men to fill offices of responsibility and high trust. The Alliance never designed or intended to bring weak men to the front and place in positions in which their ignorance would dare vindicate principle or assert rights. Its great aim is to have wise and good men to champion every worthy cause. Under no other ruling could she establish a foothold that would be permanent. It is an organization of the honest yeomanry, born of necessity, and it is not a vapor or a bubble that will soon vanish, but I am proud to say it is an organization that bids fair to become pre-eminent among organizations. It is a thing that has come to stay and will stay until its mission is accomplished, and a few fleeting years will not decide its fate only as to greatness; and when we assert that we are only advance-guards of what is moving to the front, we can comprehend its comprehend its coming magnitude and greatness. It has risen up and touched the spot where human sympathy lies, and sounded for the masses the keynote of freedom from oppression; its hand-writing to that effect is upon the wall. Under such brilliant auspices she is destined to get to the front and waft across the nation to its remotest ends freedom's musical refrain, and I do sincerely believe that the action of those good people who have not yet joined it stands suspended, no doubt, awaiting developments that will locate the moral and political plane upon which we propose to stand; then it behooves us to move out on the lines indicated, make a record we can safely transmit, study economy, domestic and political, and if possible elevate the standard of morality and show to the world that we mean what we set forth in our declaration of principles.

One devious step at first stepping out frequently leads a person into a wilderness of doubt and error.—S. Richardson.

## WARREN COUNTY FAIR.

To be Held Oct. 10th and 11th, 1888.

Mr. H. A. Foote, Secretary of the Warren County Agricultural Society, and editor of the *Gazette*, (and in whose columns may always be found something to advance the interests of the farmers) writes us a private letter in regard to the Fair. THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER has the most implicit confidence in the enterprise; it knows the people of Warren; it knows that with such energy and efficiency as is to be found in the officers selected, supported by the whole-heartedness for which the people of noble old Warren have ever been distinguished, that it will be a success. And THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER intends to be there. Bro. Foote says:

"One great object of agricultural fairs is to get the farmers to compete, thus bringing out their latent energies and causing them to raise better stock and crops. Hence the importance of letting them know in advance what the stimulants are. We also offer \$1,200 in cash premiums, and charge no fee for space or upon articles exhibited. I do not think I speak unduly when I say that our Fair will be a success beyond expectation. Please state that Warren county will hold its first Agricultural Fair in Warrenton on the 10th and 11th of October next."

Write to him for premium list.

## FARMERS' ALLIANCE IN PITT COUNTY.

[From Greenville Reflector.]

MR. EDITOR:—The Pitt County Farmers' Alliance held its first meeting after organization on the 3d of May, 1888, on the 6th of July. It is remarkable and gratifying to learn of the progress of the Alliance. Six Sub-Alliances were fully represented and some of them have nearly one hundred members enrolled. There are many applications for membership, and we doubt not that by the next regular meeting of the County Alliance it will number over one thousand members. The last meeting was quite interesting. The writer, knowing that the farmers feel the need of unity among themselves, believes that they intend to unite as a band of brothers and make the Alliance what every farmer wishes it to be. By the next regular meeting we hope to be able to give the total membership, that the people of Pitt county may see the amount of good the Alliance is and intends doing. An interesting and instructive called meeting will be held on August 21st. Our delegate, Bro. W. A. James, will have just returned from the annual meeting of the State Alliance. Every member is invited and requested to be present.

ALLIANCE MAN.

## GREEN MANURING.

At the East Tennessee Farmers' Convention the subject of green manuring was discussed and the following opinions expressed:

President Dabney, of the State University, thought green manuring the best possible, and the cheapest means of enriching land. He had made careful study of turning under pea vines. He found that the pea vine roots gave more and a richer fertilizer under the soil than there was of vine on top. The land experimented on was very poor. One could cut the pea vines for hay, if hay is scarce, and still get a good result from the roots. He had found that the root system of a pea vine crop was equal to one ton of commercial fertilizer. He thought that it depended somewhat upon the soil as to whether it was best to turn under the vines or allow them to remain upon the top as a mulch. The pea and clover and other such crops probably acted in two ways: Drew the mineral fertilizer from the soil and made it available for crops and also gathered the nitrogen from the atmosphere. In reply to a request Dr. Dabney said that clover might in time exhaust the land, and take all the strength out,

but it had not done so yet, and green manuring kept the soil in the best condition, made best crops and if in the remote future it ruined the soil it was more than we now know, so that the best thing we could do was to go ahead with the best light before us.

Mr. Keefauver said that he would place clover or peas as a foundation for rotation. With the land in clover, the growth could be turned under or cut off for hay. He always cut it for hay. The clover prepared the land for small grain.

## STONY MULCH FOR FRUIT TREES.

A farmer friend, who evidently knows how to make the orchard trees do their best, and who objects to the dangerous and troublesome operation of plowing the ground, tells us his resource. He uses slate chips or any other broken rock down to sand, and covers the ground to the extent of the branches or more with this mulch, putting it thick enough to smother grass, and thinks it is best because it is enduring. He claims for it, too, that it will not harbor mice or insects, and that the growth will start earlier in spring and close earlier in autumn. He uses manure in addition, always applying them in winter or early spring to avoid exciting late growth.

The mulch is good, but the material is bad. Why not put on a mulch which will feed the trees as it decays, and, not need renewal oftener than the stones, which would soon have grass growing in all their interstices and stealing the benefit intended for the tree? Any vegetable matter will answer, even pomace or sawdust, if not laid on so thick as to be liable to sour, or if strewn with wood ashes or lime to neutralize the acid, and supply food instead of poison. Such a mulch, if laid on widely and deeply enough, has a sure effect, and to a novice an astonishing as well as gratifying one.

The ironworkers' strike in Western Pennsylvania is now on and the mills are idle. The conference of the wage committees of the Amalgamated Association and the iron manufacturers was short and decisive. The workers' representatives stated that the lodges had voted upon the question of a reduction and had decided almost unanimously to reject it. The manufacturers then stated in language just as positive that they would not pay present wages. There was little discussion, and the conference adjourned sine die after being in session only twenty-five minutes. The members of the Amalgamated Association went into consultation at once at headquarters, and will have their scale presented to the manufacturers to sign or reject, as they see proper. Secretary Martin, of the Amalgamated Association, this afternoon received news that the Laughlin and Junction steel companies, at Mingo, Ohio, had signed the steel scale. Should all the mills be closed, fully 100,000 men will be affected. This result is attributed to the tariff agitation.

No better cosmetics than a severe temperance and purity, modesty and humility, a gracious temper and calmness of spirit; no true beauty without the signature of these graces in the very countenance.—Ray.

## OFFICIAL ORGANS OF FARMERS ALLIANCE.

National Alliance—*Southern Mercury*, Dallas, Texas.  
Alabama—*Alliance Banner*, Athens.  
Arkansas—*State Wheel Enterprise*, Little Rock.  
Mississippi—*The Farmer*, Winona.  
North Carolina—*THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER*, Raleigh.  
Louisiana—*The Union*, Choudrant.  
Tennessee and Kentucky—*The Toiler*, Nashville, Tenn.  
Free Speech, Beaumont, Texas, of the counties of Jefferson, Orange, Tyler, Hardin, Chambers, Liberty.  
Florida—*Farmers' Florida Alliance*, Marianna, Fla.